IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application No. 10/531,627

Applicant: VAN DAMME et al.

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Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

Applicants traverse the examiner's statement of reasons for allowance to the extent that the reasons for allowance fail to attribute patentability of the claims to the claims as a whole. Applicants further traverse the statement to the extent the comments therein may be viewed as a means of defining or otherwise limiting the claims in a manner inconsistent with applicants' description of the claimed invention and applicable law.

Respectfully submitted,

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